



MINUTES



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION MARCH 18, 2009

**Call to Order/
Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by
Chairman McGovern, who led Commissioners and the
audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioners Absent: None

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Harlow, Kirkorn, McGovern, Rivera, Shaw,
Siersema and Spencer were in attendance.

Others Present: Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works
Tony Olmos, City Engineer
Bob Stachelski, Transportation Manager
Bill Janusz, Principal Engineer
Debbie DeBow, Senior Civil Engineer
Linda Daily, Project Manager
Joyce Greene, Administrative Assistant

PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

Chair McGovern announced the Director Items would be deferred to the end of the meeting due to the number of items on the agenda to be reviewed. One of the commissioners had another commitment and wanted to be sure to be able to stay for all Administrative Items. Hearing no objection, the Director Items were deferred.

MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Spencer, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to approve the minutes of February 18, 2009.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 2 (Rivera, Siersema)
ABSTENTIONS: 0

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

Commissioner Siersema arrived at 5:05 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- F-1. Active Capital Project Report – An update on active capital projects under construction, as well as those in the planning stage was presented for the Commission's information. Tony Olmos asked if there were any questions from the Commissioners on the report.

Commissioner Kirkorn asked for an update on the Newland widening project. Tony Olmos responded construction has been deferred until the end of the rainy season, approximately April 15, 2009. Work is ongoing on utility undergrounding and the storm drain.

Chair McGovern inquired about projects on the report with the comment "Grants have been temporarily suspended." Tony Olmos responded most of the projects affected by frozen funds are water quality projects. Due to the state of the economy, State funds for grants are currently frozen. Submissions have been requested for Federal stimulus package funding. If federal funds become available the projects will continue as Federal funds may become available before State funds are released. The Talbert Lake Urban Runoff Diversion Phases I and II and the Irby Park Runoff Treatment are projects affected by frozen grant funds.

Chair McGovern inquired on the status of the Seismic Retrofit of the City Hall building noting an estimated August completion date. Tony Olmos responded the project is still on target to complete in late August. This is a Building & Safety Department project; however, Public Works is working very closely with the Building & Safety Department and the contractor.

Commissioner Rivera arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Commissioner Kirkorn inquired of the Atlanta/Beach shopping center remodel noting it was originally planned for the redevelopment to include incorporating the frontage road and would include street lighting. With the frontage road currently not being part of the redevelopment, and no undergrounding of utilities being required, he inquired if street lighting would be put in place. Bob Stachelski responded the installation of street lighting is not required at this time, however, the project could go back to City Council to require street lighting as well as other street improvements that would have been required if the frontage

road had been incorporated. Other improvements including curb and gutter and sidewalk are not currently required on the project without the inclusion of the frontage road. Travis Hopkins added the proposed project is smaller than was anticipated by the city.

Chair McGovern inquired if the June timetable for construction of the pier buildings was on schedule. Tony Olmos responded at this time there has been no change and the June completion date is anticipated.

- F-2. Upcoming City Council Study Sessions – Travis Hopkins reminded the Commissioners the document is informational for agenda scheduling purposes only and is subject to change. Scheduled for April 20, 2009 is the OCTA I-405 Improvement Project, and the Water Update is scheduled for May 18, 2009.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- G-1. Chlorination Upgrades for Water Well No. 13 (CC-1284) - Debbie DeBow presented the item. Project plans and specifications are in final stages.

Water Well No. 13 is located at the Springdale Reservoir and was drilled in 2001. The well currently uses small chlorine vessels to disinfect the water which require frequent replacement. The 2005 Water Master Plan recommends replacing small containers with larger containers to reduce maintenance and enhance operators' safety and efficiency. The project will also construct a small structure to house the vessels.

Commissioner Siersema inquired what other wells do not have the larger vessels. Debbie DeBow responded Wells No. 1 and 4 do not have the larger containers, however, the demand on these wells does not require the larger chlorine containers.

Commissioner Rivera inquired on security of the vessels. Both Debbie DeBow and Travis Hopkins responded citing the chain link fence, security cameras among other security measures which are currently in place. In addition, the larger chlorine vessels are double contained. All water well sites are undergoing security upgrades.

Commissioner Kirkorn noted the project was exempt from CEQA and inquired if the Fire Department had reviewed the plan. Ms. DeBow responded the plan is currently under review by Fire but she has received verbal approval and is waiting on the written approval from the Fire Department.

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Motion by Commissioner Siersema, seconded by Commissioner Rivera to support the initiation of the bid process and to recommend to the City Council the Chlorination Upgrades for Water Well No. 13.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

- G-2. Traffic Signal Installation Newland Street and Hamilton Avenue (CC-1213) – Bill Janusz presented the item. The intersection has been identified as a high priority intersection on the Traffic Signal Priority List. The location has some geometrical issues. Mr. Janusz then identified the issues at the location and provided the measures to be used.

The curb return will need to be reconstructed and shortened from a 25 foot radius to 22 feet. Doing so will allow for proper poll placement to conform to ADA requirements. Along the westerly side of the intersection, there is currently no curb. An asphalt curb will be installed to properly place the signal poles.

Motion by Commissioner Siersema, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to support the initiation of the competitive bid process and to recommend to the City Council the proposed traffic signal installation at the intersection of Newland Street and Hamilton Avenue.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

- G-3. Fair Share Traffic Impact Fee Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2007/08 – Bob Stachelski asked if the Commissioners would like him to go through the report or would they prefer to just go to questions. The Commission felt there was no need for Mr. Stachelski to summarize the report and chose to move to questions.

Chair McGovern noted part of the funding comes from the Redevelopment Agency and inquired if they are prompt in repayment. Mr. Stachelski explained how a project is presented and debt incurred to the fund. Over time, the debt is to be paid back to the Traffic Impact Fee fund; however, a payment schedule has not been established. Discussion ensued. Mr. Stachelski explained

Transportation does not depend on Redevelopment Agency payment for funding of projects.

Motion by Commissioner Siersema, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to recommend approval of the 2007/08 Traffic Impact Fee Annual Report to the City Council.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

- G-4. Sanitary Sewer Fund Annual Report Fiscal Year 2007/08 – Linda Daily explained the Sanitary Sewer Fund is a developer sewer connection fee and totally separate from the monthly sewer charge listed on the utility bill. The Commission chose to not hear a summary of the report going directly to questions.

Commissioner Siersema inquired if the city was collecting fees for FOG (Fats, Oil, Grease). Linda Daily responded FOG is a user fee and goes to the General Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Siersema, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to recommend to the City Council the approval of the Annual Sanitary Sewer Facilities Fund Compliance Report.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

- G-5. Drainage Fund Annual Compliance Report Fiscal Year 2007/08 – Linda Daily presented. The drainage fund is a development fee that is restricted to use for drainage enhancements. As a result of project cost overruns for the Shields Pump Station in Fiscal Year 2001/02, the fund maintains a negative balance of <\$667,000.>

The Drainage Fund advanced the Redevelopment Agency funds for improvements in the early 1990s. With interest, the debt amount is currently \$406,000. Contact was made with the Redevelopment Agency staff and there is no projection of repayment to the fund at this time. Travis Hopkins added repayment is being discussed through the Strategic Plan; however, in current budget discussions, no repayment is scheduled. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Commissioner Rivera, seconded by Commissioner Siersema to recommend to the City Council the approval of the Planned Local Drainage Facility Fund Compliance Report for Fiscal Year 2007/08.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0

DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

- E-1. Water Conservation Materials – Travis Hopkins provided information requested by the Commission at the last meeting for water conservation and what information is available to the public. Mr. Hopkins offered the Commission to arrange for the Commissioners to meet with Water Conservation Coordinator Bill Crisp. Mr. Hopkins provided each Commissioner with water conservation materials and recommendations of planting material. The information is available to the public through handouts from the Utilities Division and information available on the City web site. Community outreach is ongoing with examples of staff at Surf City Nights with water conservation material; Utilities Manager Howard Johnson making a presentation to the Ocean View School District meeting; the upcoming Earth Day, just to mention a few

Chair McGovern and Commissioner Shaw suggested the consideration of a water conservation sub-committee. Discussion ensued. Travis Hopkins will contact the Planning Department to enquire how the Environmental Board is addressing water conservation measures and report back to the Commission at a future meeting. No sub-committee will be formed at this time.

- E-2. Water Management Plan Update – Travis Hopkins presented an update on the possible implementation of Stage 1 of the Water Management Plan. August 2008 the City Council approved the Water Management Plan. The Plan includes water conservation measures to be implemented should quantities be reduced for ground water pumping. Metropolitan Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) controls the amount of ground water that can be pumped. Ground water curtailments will be announced shortly.

The City anticipates announcing the implementation of Stage 1 of the Water Management Plan at the April 6, 2009 City Council Meeting. The goal is a 10% curtailment which should be met through public education and water audits. Curtailments include such things as residents not washing down sidewalks and driveways. The City has already taken steps toward conservation with such

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examples as reducing watering city parks one day per week, and the installation of waterless urinals in the city restrooms. Staff is diligently monitoring medians throughout the city for overspray or broken sprinkler heads. Other measures considered are restricted irrigation hours for residents such as no daytime landscape watering.

Letters were mailed to the top 500 water users within the city. Penalties could be assessed to violators but there are no current plans to assess fines. If conservation goals are not met, other restrictions may be put in place. The city expects curtailments this summer from Metropolitan Water District to be in the area of 25% which would put the city in Stage 2.

Commissioner Siersema asked if there were any plans to completely shut water off as had previously happened in foreign countries. Travis Hopkins responded there are no plans to do so. Health and safety issues would not allow complete water shut off. If drought conditions became so extreme, other measures would be put in place.

Commission Shaw inquired what percent of city water is residential use and what percentage is other use. Mr. Hopkins responded the city does not have agriculture within the city; however, it does have parks and golf courses that have high water usage.

Commissioner Siersema inquired on the status of the desalination plant and where it is in the process for development. Travis Hopkins responded the desalination plant will be a private agency. The developer must go before the Coastal Commission to apply for coastal development permission. Many things need to take place before a project would ever be ready for development.

Chair McGovern requested water conservation continue to be an item on the agenda for updates each month.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

The Commission was provided copies of a letter from Russ and Marlene Jones related to a street tree issue and their request for concrete repair. Travis Hopkins gave an update on the city's current repairs informing the Commission there is a list that the citizens' request will be added to. As funding becomes available, repairs are made. The citizen will be contacted and an explanation on funding will be provided. An option is in place where repair can be made at the homeowner's expense if they choose to do so. The process will also be explained to the citizen.

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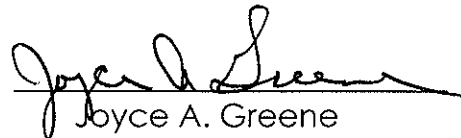
COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Public Works Commission adjourned to the meeting date of Wednesday, April, 2009, 5:00 p.m., City Council Chambers. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

John McGovern
Chair



Joyce A. Greene
Administrative Assistant

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